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TheIntelligencer.
WHEELING, JANUARY 2, 1896.

The Transvaal Trouble.
The Transvaal, called by its people the South African Republic, is that part of South Africa which lies to the north of Cape Colony beyond the Vaal river. Here the Dutch farmers and herders established themselves after Great Britain had taken Cape Colony from Holland as part of the plunder of the Napoleonic wars. These simple pastoral people preferred to invade the wilderness and hew out for themselves a new home rather than live under British rule. It was a bold undertaking, but courage, industry and perseverance won.
The British were near enough to know what was going on. They saw opportunities to make money in the Boer republic, and there they established themselves in increasing numbers. In time the thing happened which might have been expected. Having kept the fighting natives stirred up against the Boers, having created serious dissensions among the Boers, in 1877 the British proclaimed the annexation of the Transvaal. The Boers flew to arms, made a stout resistance and inflicted enough punishment on the British troops to change the British policy. A suzerainty having to do chiefly with the republic's foreign relations was agreed upon by treaty. By the convention of London, 1884, Great Britain recognized the South African Republic and very little of her suzerainty was left.
The present trouble may be said to have had its beginning in 1886, when the discovery of new and most valuable gold fields attracted the attention and started that rush of adventurers which has not ceased yet. Most of the newcomers were British, a sprinkling American. These gold-hunters and their commercial camp-followers are the Uitlanders, the foreigners, told of in the current dispatches. The Uitlanders are making trouble because the Boers will give them no voice in the government of the country, although they are a majority of the white population. They offer to become naturalized, but the Boers will not accept them as citizens. The foreigners say that they pay most of the taxes and should have a voice in the government. The Boers reply that it is their country, they carved it out for themselves because they wished to get away from British rule, and that they will not admit outsiders to a voice in their government, for the outsiders would control. The Boers did not ask the outsiders to come in and do not compel them to stay.
The Boers see in the move a scheme to hand them over to the British authority, a fate which they averted more than half a century ago by leaving Cape Colony and later, in 1880, by a courageous resort to arms. The present contention cannot go far as an armed conflict before British columns will be supporting the British insurgents.
If no other power interfere the Boers will be overcome, their republic will be wiped out, and the Transvaal will become purely a British dependency, the heroic struggle of half a century against the wild forces of nature and British intrigue will have had its last chapter written in grievous disappointment. The British plan will not please France. If France takes a hand Russia will not be far away.
Will Great Britain be allowed to gobble the Boer republic? This is what the Boers would like to know, and as yet nobody is able to tell them.
Two to one you wrote it 1895 yesterday. What a grip bait gets on us.
Is this the Game?
A staff correspondent of the New York World writing from Washington about the coming bond issue has this to say:
"To adopt open methods and advertise for bids is to confess that last spring's transaction was a tremendous blunder. And yet there is a suspicion gaining ground that the government will advertise for bids this time, but will impose conditions that can only be fulfilled by Mr. Morgan and his friends. The question is, Did Mr. Morgan get any intimation of this when he visited Washington last week?"
What kind of a "double cross" would this be? As to intimations to Mr. Morgan when he was in Washington, well, Mr. Morgan is a business man and a shrewd one. He knows how to frighten where he has frightened before; and when he has a good thing in sight he knows just how good a thing it is.
Women's visiting cards, to be up to date, must be larger. It is not necessary that their visits shall be longer.
A Business Man's Business Idea.
Senator Elkins's first active public participation in the proceedings of the senate is in connection with a business proposition that will impress favorably the business men of the country. He asked the senate to give immediate consideration to a resolution declaring it to be the sense of that body that no bonds of the United States should be sold at private sale or by private contract, but that bonds should be advertised for sale and sold to the highest bidder.
The immediate passage of this resolution might have had no effect on the ad-

ministration, but it would have shown that the senate is mindful of what is going on, considers it bad business and is ready to help to put an end to it.
The idea, if carried out, would give the government a chance to realize the highest market value for its bonds, instead of giving a syndicate of bankers a chance for an enormous rake-off based on the country's high credit. It would give somebody outside of the syndicate a chance to get some of the bonds without paying tribute to a favored syndicate for the privilege. It would be politic and fair. It would be business.
Senator Elkins does not need to be told that the more syndicate bond scandals this administration is involved in, the less possibility there is that the Democratic party can make a respectable showing at the polls next year. He is enough a partisan to find some satisfaction in this thought, but he is a patriot enough to want to save his country from any more of the shame and humiliation brought upon it by the peculiar money-borrowing antics of Mr. Cleveland's administration.
The Humor of a Surprise.
The New York Tribune is disposed to make fun over the invitation to Judge Alvey, chief justice of the court of appeals of the District of Columbia, to become a member of the Venezuelan commission. It says:
It will no doubt surprise the effete monarchies of the Old World to learn that Alvey has been called in to settle this Venezuelan matter. It is a surprise, in fact, everywhere—nowhere more so than in Hagerstown, where, it is confidently asserted, the judge is well known.
From which it appears that the editorial side of the Tribune is not acquainted with Judge Alvey. The Washington correspondent of the Tribune is, as witness this from his very interesting dispatch on the subject:
Upon the death of Chief Justice Waite, during Mr. Cleveland's first term, some of the justices of the supreme court who had been impressed with the opinions delivered by Judge Alvey on the appellate bench of Maryland urged the President to appoint him chief justice of the United States. This the President was disposed to do, but it is understood was deterred by the fact, so it has been said, that Judge Alvey is a southern man, and it was feared that for this position he would be too much of a partisan to the south, and would create animosities. It is known that Mr. Cleveland has a high personal regard for Judge Alvey and a high opinion of his abilities.
Five the place of commissioner in the Venezuela boundary business Judge Alvey is commended by his long experience in weighing and determining the value of the matter, his wide reading and his accurate knowledge of history. He is a man of exalted character, calm and judicial temperament, and in his decisions he is entirely unimpaired by prejudice or passion. He would no doubt decide the case impartially upon the evidence before him.
The selection of such a man for such a work cannot be so great a surprise as to be really startling, can it? A man of whom all this can be said, who was thought by justices of the supreme court of the United States to be worthy to be made chief justice of that high court, is probably big enough for the Venezuelan job.
If the effete monarchies share the Tribune's editorial surprise, somebody may think to fasten their attention on the Tribune's better informed and highly appreciative special Washington advices of the same date. This, let us hope, will make it all right with the effete, whose good opinion we must not cease to cultivate by all honorable means.
This is the year which history will associate with the complete restoration to power of the party that knows how to run the government and give the people a chance to get on in the world.
Get Out Your Pencils.
Those of the Intelligencer's readers who like an entertaining thing in figures may find this product of a Kansas teacher's mind to their liking. It will serve to pass part of a winter evening. In some cases may last through to breakfast time:
A cowboy had three ponies and a Mexican saddle, which are worth \$25. Placing the saddle on the first pony makes it worth the other two; placing the saddle on the second pony makes it worth twice the other two, and placing the saddle on the third pony makes it worth three times the others. What is the value of each pony?
Who shall be the first to send in the answer and the way to find it?
As much fuss is made over the Burden diamond robbery as though no diamonds had ever been stolen before. And is it so very strange that the thief should get off with his plunder without putting the police on his track? It suits a purpose to raise a howl against the present police administration of New York, and this is the real importance of the Burden diamond robbery.
Does He Want the Earth?
Is there any attractive spot on earth upon which your Cousin John Bull does not look with a longing and yearning to be satisfied only by possession or a good drubbing? The peaceful Boers of the South African Republic thought they were beyond the reach of British cupidity when they pushed beyond the Vaal, but they did not know of the gold that lay hidden there.
That is the source of their present trouble and will probably prove their doom. Gold in the Transvaal, gold in Venezuela, gold in Alaska, and John Bull reaching for it on one pretext and another. The world will begin to suspect John.
New York has raised a subscription of \$21,000 to bring the Democratic national convention to that city. Of this amount the Herald subscribes \$10,000, hotel men the remainder. New York will have to do very much better than this before she can be considered seriously—and then the prize will go to some other city not quite so near the Atlantic ocean.
A Secret Out at Last.
A friend of Lord Dunraven comes to the front to say that his lordship came to this country, not to act as prosecutor, but to assist the committee in getting at the facts. True, he brought a barrister with him, but that was in order to have somebody to speak for him at the hearing. The friend explains: "It certainly would be apart from the usual proceeding to undertake to ask questions of the witnesses himself." Of course. Strange that we did not think of this. We must keep our rank under a glass case if the heavens fall.
The Morgan syndicate got last February's issue of 4 per cent bonds in 1894 and sold these bonds up to 120. Is it possible that the \$100,000,000 issue of new bonds is to go at the same price, with an additional sweetener of 1 per cent commission for raking in a good thing—


Your Wife
Objects to your using tobacco, because she fears it may be injurious to you. But
**MAIL POUCH TOBACCO**
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a round million to act as the government's agent to sell something to itself? This is the word that comes from Washington, and it is beyond belief.
ABOUT VENEZUELA.
Some Facts which Have Not Appeared in the Diplomatic Correspondence.
New York Sun.
The area of Venezuela is 923,000 square miles, larger than that of any country in Europe except Russia, and larger than that of any state in the United States. The area of Texas is 265,000 square miles.
The population of Venezuela by the last census was 2,550,000. This is more than Denmark's and less than Switzerland's. It is about the same as that of Massachusetts. The last official estimate of the population of Massachusetts, made on January 1, 1894, was 2,472,000. By the federal census of five years ago, the population of Massachusetts was 2,235,000.
Caracas, the capital and chief city of Venezuela, has a population of 70,000, or less than that of Fall River. It is built on an elevation of 3,000 feet above the sea level. It was founded in 1567. Caracas is an Indian name, the name of the Indians of the neighborhood which the Spanish pioneers settled to the original title of the new town, Santiago de Leon. In 1812, the year of the latest American war with Great Britain, an earthquake in Caracas buried 12,000 persons in the ruins of a part of the city. The date of this earthquake was March 28.
There are 200,000,000 acres of forest lands in the republic of Venezuela. Rosewood, satinwood, mahogany and white and black ebony are found.
The distance from New York to La Guayra, the port of Caracas, is 2,200 miles. In addition to gold, coffee and fine woods, Venezuela exports hides, cocoa and cattle. The distance from La Guayra to London is nearly 5,000 miles.
The salary of the American minister to Venezuela is \$7,500. The rank of Venezuela's representative to the United States is that of envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary. Although Venezuela has been for many years a republic, its official representatives are profound believers in a conventional observance of official etiquette. A considerable number of diplomatic disputes have taken place between the Venezuelan state department and the representatives of various foreign governments over details of routine and usage.
On the north shore of Venezuela, or rather to the north of that republic, are several islands of greater fame than Caracas, particularly the island of Curacao, a Dutch possession; the island of Trinidad, a British possession; the island of Tortuga, and the British isle of St. George.
Some of the most picturesque and loquacious parrots and lively cockatoos come from Venezuela.
The length of Venezuela from east to west is 900 miles, and from north to south 775 miles.
There are fourteen varieties of monkeys in Venezuela, and no cuckoos. The name Venezuela means Little Venice.
The coffee crop of Venezuela amounts to \$15,000,000 a year in value. The average crop is 60,000 tons of coffee. Two-thirds of the product is exported, mostly to England. Maracibo is one of the centers of trade. Maracibo coffee is known everywhere.
Venezuela first made its declaration of independence in 1810. The present republic was formed in 1830. In the same year that Belgium became an independent monarchy. The rival political parties in Venezuela are the Unionists and the Federalists. The former favor a centralized government; the latter are for home rule. Both are opposed to foreign invasion, encroachment, or confiscation.
The army of Venezuela on a peace footing consists of 1,000 horsemen, 4,000 infantry soldiers and 1,000 artillerymen, exclusive of the local militia and irregular troops. By the law of Venezuela all citizens between the ages of 18 and 25, both inclusive, are liable to service in the national militia.
The average gold product of Venezuela in a year is \$1,000,000. The standard of value in the republic of Venezuela is the bolivar, so called after Simon Bolivar, and the value of it is the same as a French franc—19.3 cents. Venezuela does not produce silver. Much of the foreign debt is held in England. The exports of Venezuela exceed the imports by \$3,000,000 a year.
There are more than two hundred lakes within the boundaries of Venezuela, one of the largest being 1,600 feet above the level of the sea. The Orinoco river, the largest in Venezuela, is 1,150 miles long. It is five times as long as the Hudson river, but less than one-third the length of the Amazon, and less than one-half the length of the Mississippi. The roads of Venezuela are inferior. Communication is difficult. The government, however, has expended large sums of money for the improvement of the approaches to some of the larger towns. There are twenty states in Venezuela, the official division being based on the constitution of the United States. There is also a federal district, corresponding to the district of Columbia, and there are several outlying territories.
The mineral products of Venezuela, in addition to gold, which the English speculators are seeking by summary annexation of Venezuelan territory to the British possessions, are iron, zinc, quicksilver, lead, tin and antimony. There are also extensive deposits of salt, alum, lime, sulphur and asphaltum.
The summer season in Venezuela lasts from November to April. The winter season lasts from April to November. The climate of the temperate part of the country is the approach to some of the most equable and the most salubrious outside of Peru. The women of Venezuela are of the Spanish type, and are celebrated for their beauty. The language of the country is Spanish, and no language is sweeter. About 45,000,000 persons altogether speak Spanish as their native language, a majority of them living in South and Central America.
The jails in Connecticut are in an overcrowded condition, as a result of the recent crusade on the tramps in that state.
Coughing irritates the delicate organs and aggravates the disease. Instead of waiting, try One Minute Cough Cure. It helps at once, making expectoration easy, reduces the soreness and inflammation. Every one likes it. Local Drug Co., Wheeling, W. Va., B. F. Peabody, Denwood, and Bowls & Co., Bridgeport, O.
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I am called away from the city on business of importance on Thursday and Friday, January 2 and 3; will return on Saturday.
I will be at my office, Schaefer & Driehorst building, to-day (January 1) from 9 a. m. to 12:30 p. m.
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PROBATE OF WILL.
Office of the Clerk of the County Court, Ohio County, State of West Virginia.
In the matter of the probate of the last will and testament of Magdalena Klech, deceased.
The object of the petition filed in this matter on the 20th day of December, A. D. 1895, is to have admitted to probate a paper writing purporting to be the will of Magdalena Klech, deceased, bearing date the 3d day of December, A. D. 1895, and it appearing from the petition filed herein that Pearl Klech, Magdalena Klech and Louise Klech, the persons who are therein and by said petition declared to be interested in the probate of said will, are non-residents of this state, it is ordered that they do appear at my office in the city of Wheeling, in the county and state aforesaid, within one month after the date of the first publication hereof, and do what is necessary to protect their interests in said matter. The hearing of said petition is set for the 22d day of January, A. D. 1896, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m. of said day.
Published the first time December 21, 1895.
GEORGE HOOK, Clerk.
G. L. CRANMER, Attorney. de34-s
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